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#4/17

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Office Application of
Ron PINKUS

Serial No. 09/740,808

Filed: December 21, 2000

For: AUTOMATIC PAYMENT METHOD
USING RF ID TAGS

Atty. Dkt. No.: 111039-00110

GAU: 2163

Examiner: Unassigned

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted. Please enter the following amendments before examination of the subject application:

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please refer to the concurrently-filed Request For Approval of Drawings Changes.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add the following new claims:

A system for conducting cashless business transactions comprising:
a plurality of dispensers, each dispenser being associated with at least one antenna;
a controller for receiving a detection notification from a first antenna, the first antenna being associated with a first dispenser and corresponding to a first detector;
a tag interrogator connected to the at least one antenna for transmitting an interrogation signal to a tag through the first antenna and for receiving information from the tag after the first antenna is activated; and